

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference F 902 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See Form PCT/IPEA/416 |
| International application No. PCT/EP2004/050147 | International filing date (day/month/year) 18.02.2004 | Priority date (day/month/year) 19.02.2003 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F26B 13/16 | | |
| Applicant FLEISSNER GMBH | | |

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|----|---|--|
| 1. | This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. | |
| 2. | This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet. | |
| 3. | This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of _____ sheets, as follows: <input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions). | |
| 4. | This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application | |

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Date of submission of the demand | Date of completion of this report |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/050147

Box No. I

Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-6 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 1-15 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets 1/2 - 2/2 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/EP2004/050147

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-15 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1-15 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-15 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: DE 18 06 220 (BRÜCKNER ENGINEERING)

Document D1, which is considered to be the prior art closest to the subject matter of claim 1, discloses the following (the references in parentheses are to D1):

Device with a rotatably mounted drum through which a fluid flows from the outside towards the inside, the stable casing of the drum being provided with a sieve-like perforated structure or similar around its circumference, and with an outer layer which is also permeable and covers the radially outward side of the casing, and preferably with an underlayer such as a gauze between the outer layer and the perforated drum casing to increase the distance between the perforated drum casing and the outer layer.

The subject matter of claim 1 differs from the known device in that between the outer surface of the perforated drum casing (5) and the inner surface of the outer layer (9) there is an axially movable (23) tensioning element (20)

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

which extends in the axial direction and is larger in the radial direction at at least one point across the working width of the perforated drum.

The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).

The problem addressed by the present invention can thus be seen as that of how to make the outer layer easy to change.

The solution proposed in claim 1 of the application involves an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)) because there is nothing in the prior art to suggest the use of a tensioning element between the outer layer and the perforated drum.

Claims 2 to 15 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT requirements in respect of novelty and inventive step.